

Cameras in the Court State by State Guide

http://www.rtdna.org/content/cameras_al_id

The information below was updated by the Radio Television Digital News Association in the summer of 2012.

Alabama

Allows Cameras? No

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? Yes

Audio or Video Webcast? No

Media Guide Available? No

Trial and appellate courtroom coverage is permissible if the Supreme Court of Alabama has approved a plan for the courtroom in which coverage will occur. The plan must contain certain safeguards to assure that coverage will not detract from or degrade court proceedings, or otherwise interfere with a fair trial. If such a plan has been approved, a trial judge may, in the exercise of "sound discretion" permit coverage if: (1) in a criminal proceeding, all accused persons and the prosecutor give their written consent and (2) in a civil proceeding, all litigants and their attorneys give their written consent. Following approval of their coverage plans, appellate courts may authorize coverage if the parties and their attorneys give their written consents. In both trial and appellate contexts, the court must halt coverage during any time that a witness, party, juror, or attorney expressly objects. In an appellate setting, it must also halt coverage during any time that a judge expressly objects to coverage.

Alaska

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? No

Media Guide Available? No

The news media, which includes the electronic media, still photographers and sketch artists, may cover court proceedings in all state trial and appellate courts. Administrative Rule 50 permits media coverage anywhere in the state court facility and is not limited to courtrooms, but to cover a proceeding the media must apply for and receive the consent of the presiding judge. Requests for coverage must be made 24 hours prior to the proceeding, and applications that are timely filed are deemed to have been approved, unless otherwise prohibited. The consent of all parties is required for coverage of divorce, dissolution of marriage, domestic violence, child custody and visitation, paternity or other family proceedings.

Jurors may not be photographed, filmed or videotaped in the courtroom at any time. Victims of a sexual offense may not be photographed, filmed, videotaped or sketched without the consent of the court and the victim. A procedure is prescribed for suspension of an individual's or an organization's media coverage privileges for a period of up to one year for violation of the media coverage plan.

Arizona

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? No

Electronic and still photographic coverage of “proceedings conducted by a judicial officer” is permitted, provided the media follow certain guidelines that set forth rules for coverage. Although judges have discretion to limit or prohibit such coverage, they may only do so where the likelihood of harm outweighs the public benefit. Media may also use personal audio recording devices, provided that the audio recording does not create a distraction in the courtroom. The photographing of jurors in a way that permits them to be recognized is strictly forbidden. Requests for coverage should be made to the judge of the particular proceeding at least two days in advance of the sought-after coverage event, unless said event is scheduled on less than three days notice. Only one television and one still camera is allowed in the courtroom at one time, and the media are responsible for arranging pooling agreements. No flash bulbs or additional artificial lights of any kind are allowed in the courtroom without the notification and approval of the presiding judge.

Arkansas

Allows Cameras? No

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? Yes

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? No

A judge may authorize broadcasting, recording, or photographing in the courtroom and adjacent areas provided that “the participants will not be distracted, [n]or will the dignity of the proceedings be impaired.” An objection to the coverage by a party or attorney precludes media coverage of the proceedings and an objection by a witness precludes coverage of that witness. Coverage of juvenile matters in circuit court, all probate and domestic relations matters in circuit court, including adoption, guardianship, divorce, custody, support, and paternity, and all drug court proceedings is expressly prohibited. Similarly, coverage of jurors, minors without parental or guardian consent, sex crime victims, undercover police agents and informants is also prohibited.

Only one television and one still camera is allowed in the courtroom at one time and the media are responsible for arranging pooling agreements. If the court already has broadcasting equipment, it shall be used unless other arrangements are necessary.

Use of electronic devices without permission of the court is prohibited, including for e-mail, blogging, and tweeting.

California

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? Yes

Media coverage of state court proceedings is governed by Rule 1.150 of the California Rules of Court. Personal recording devices may be used with advance permission of the judge for personal note-taking only. Media coverage is permitted by written order of the judge following a media request for coverage filed at least five court days before the proceeding to be covered. Any such requests must be made on the official form provided by the courts.

Coverage of jury selection, jurors, spectators, proceedings held in chambers, proceedings closed to the public or conferences between an attorney and a client, witness or aide, between attorneys or between

counsel and the judge is prohibited. Only one television and one still camera is allowed in the courtroom at one time and the media are responsible for arranging pooling agreements.

Los Angeles Superior Court Local Rule 2.17 prohibits any person inside a courtroom from photographing, recording, broadcasting, or activating any camera, microphone, recorder, or broadcasting device unless such activity is allowed by order or express permission. Outside the courtroom, a person may engage in such activity if the person is in a designated media area or has written permission. A person must obtain written permission from the court to carry in any camera, microphone, or recording equipment, or to activate the sound or image capturing features of any computer, mobile phone, or watch. A person requesting media coverage of any type must file the appropriate forms.

In addition, Los Angeles Superior Court rules prohibit photography of any kind inside the courthouse or courtrooms unless the photographer has permission and has filed the appropriate forms. This ban on photography applies to all devices that can capture images, including cell phones. Photographs taken without permission will be deleted from the device and the photographer will be sanctioned.

San Francisco Superior Court has a standing order that prohibits filming, photography, and electronic recording in the hallways and public areas of a certain floor of the courthouse. In general, the standing order in San Francisco states that media coverage equipment, including cell phones, may only be used in designated media areas in the courthouse.

Colorado

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? No

Under Colorado Supreme Court Rules, Chapter 38, Rule 2, the judge may authorize expanded media coverage—defined as any photography or audio recording of proceedings—subject to several guidelines.

Judges have the power to prohibit expanded media coverage upon a finding of substantial likelihood of interference with a fair trial, a reasonable likelihood that coverage will detract from the solemnity, decorum, or dignity of the court, or that coverage will create unique, adverse effects, or harm which is distinct from that caused by coverage by other types of media. Those wishing to cover a particular proceeding must submit a written request to do so to the presiding judge at least one day in advance of the proceeding and must give a copy of the request to the counsel for each party participating in the proceeding. Coverage of jury selection, in camera hearings and most pre-trial hearings is prohibited. No close-up photography of the jury, bench conferences or attorney-client communication is permitted. Consent of the participants is not required. The judge may also terminate coverage if the terms of the rules or additional rules imposed by the Court have been violated. Only one still and one video camera operator (with up to two cameras, at the judge's discretion) are allowed in the courtroom at one time. The camera operator may use a tripod but may not change positions while the court is in session. The media are responsible for arranging pooling agreements.

Connecticut

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No
Audio or Video Webcast? No
Media Guide Available? Yes

Sections 70-9 and 70-10 of the Rules of Appellate Procedure (governing media coverage in the Appellate and Supreme Courts) and Sections 1-10 and 1-11 of the Rules for the Superior Court (governing coverage in trial courts) permit the coverage of judicial proceedings under specific circumstances.

All proceedings of the Supreme and appellate courts are presumed to be open to coverage by camera or electronic media. The panel of jurists can only limit or preclude coverage if “there is good cause to do so, there are no reasonable alternatives to such limitations, and the limitation is no broader than necessary to protect the competing interests at issue.” When the panel of jurists does limit or preclude coverage it must provide a statement of reasons. The presumption in favor of coverage does not apply to sexual offense cases or family relations matters.

At the trial court level, Connecticut adopted new rules that went into effect in January 2012. Under the rules, a media organization, defined as “any person or entity that is regularly engaged in the gathering and dissemination of news,” must be approved by the Office of Chief Court Administrator. Once approved, the media may broadcast, televise, record, or photograph court proceedings subject to several general limitations. First, the media may not cover proceedings dealing with family relations matters, juvenile matters, sexual assault, or trade secrets. Second, the media may not cover proceedings held without the jury present in a jury trial, unless the trial court makes an exception. Third, the media may not cover proceedings that are closed to the public.

Fourth, the media may not cover a trial during recess, or cover conferences amongst the parties. Finally, the media may not cover jury selection.

In addition, Connecticut has special rules for covering trial court arraignments, civil proceedings, and criminal proceedings. For arraignments, the media must request permission for electronic coverage. The court will give the state and the defendant the opportunity to object to the coverage request, and then the court will decide whether or not to grant the request. If the request is granted, there are additional coverage limitations. For example, the media may not cover conferences amongst the parties, the defendant while entering and exiting lockup, or documents in a close-up fashion. In addition, only one camera and one audio recording device may be used, the media may not use artificial lighting, the camera operator must remain in one location throughout the duration of the arraignment, and the court will decide the camera placement.

For civil proceedings at the trial court level, coverage is allowed unless the court finds substantial reason to believe that coverage will compromise a party’s legal rights, safety, or privacy. The media may only use equipment that is not distracting, and no equipment may be moved and no film may be changed while the court is in session. The court has discretion to require pooling arrangements.

Finally, for criminal proceedings at the trial court level, any media representative who wants to cover criminal proceedings must submit a written notice of coverage three days prior to the proceedings. This requirement may be waived for good cause. The court may limit or preclude coverage if it finds substantial reason to believe that coverage will compromise a party’s legal rights, safety, or privacy. Under normal coverage circumstances, the media may only use one camera and one audio recording device, and neither can be distracting. Unless the judge makes an exception, the media may not use artificial lighting. The judge decides the location of the camera and recording equipment, and the equipment may not be moved during the proceeding. The court has discretion to require pooling arrangements.

Connecticut also sets forth rules concerning the use and possession of electronic devices in state courtrooms. Under Superior Court rules, individuals may bring cell phones and personal computers into courtrooms; however, individuals may not take pictures or broadcast sound or video with their cell phones and may only use personal computers for note taking. Under Appellate and Supreme Court rules, individuals may have a cell phone, PDA, personal computer, or other electronic device that can broadcast, record, or take pictures; however, individuals may not use those devices to take pictures, record, or broadcast. In addition, individuals may not use cell phones in the courtroom.

Delaware

Allows Cameras? No

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? Yes

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? No

Rule 53 of the Delaware Superior Court Criminal Rules, Rule 53 of the Delaware Family Court Criminal Rules, and Rule 53 of the Criminal Rules of Delaware Courts of Justices of the Peace forbid coverage. By order dated April 29, 1982, the Delaware Supreme Court issued guidelines for its one year appellate experiment. Under those guidelines, coverage is permissible so long as it does not impair or interrupt the orderly procedures of the Court. Consents of the parties are not required. This experiment was extended indefinitely by order of the Delaware Supreme Court, dated and effective May 2, 1983.

On April 5, 2004, the Delaware Supreme Court issued its Administrative Directive No. 155, which established a six-month trial court experiment, which was originally scheduled to end on October 15, 2004. In this experiment, media coverage was permitted in the Sussex Court of Chancery, and courtrooms in New Castle, Kent and Sussex Counties. Broadcast of non-confidential, non-jury, civil proceedings was permitted.

Administrative Directive No. 155 was amended on October 25, 2004, and the experiment was extended until May 16, 2005. On November 29, 2005, Administrative Directive No. 155 was again amended, this time extending the experimental period indefinitely.

Personal electronic devices, like cell phones, are prohibited in many Delaware courts. For example, in Superior Court, all electronic devices are prohibited, including cell phones, PDAs, and Notebooks. In Justice of the Peace locations, only authorized individuals may bring cell phones and other personal recording devices into the courtroom. In the Kent County, New Castle County, and Sussex County courthouses, all personal communications devices, like cell phones with cameras, are generally prohibited from the courtroom, and only authorized individuals may bring these devices into the courtroom.

District of Columbia

Allows Cameras? No

Does Not Allow Cameras? Yes

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? Yes

DC courts do not allow members of the media or individuals to photograph or record courts proceedings. Superior Court Rule of Civil Procedure 203 (b) prohibits photographs, broadcasts, or

tapes for public replay of any civil proceeding. Superior Court Rule of Criminal Procedure 53(b) prohibits photographs, broadcasts, and mechanical recording devices; however, there are two exceptions. First, the court may make an exception for the use of a mechanical recording device. Second, the official in charge of a particular office or room in the courthouse may give permission to take photographs; the person being photographed must also consent. Similarly, Family Court Rule 45 (e) prohibits photographing and broadcasting in courtrooms, and allows photographing in other rooms in the Family Court with the permission of the person in charge of the room and the person being photographed.

Under Superior Court Administrative Order 11-17, people entering a Superior Court courtroom must turn off all electronic devices and store the devices in a location where they cannot be seen. Even though the general rule applies to members of the media, the order specifies that the presiding judicial officer may give members of the media permission to use electronic devices for “official business.” Even with special permission, the use of electronic devices is limited; members of the media may only use the device for court- or business-related matters, and members of the media may not use the device to photograph, record, or make transmissions of any type.

Blogging may be allowed in DC Superior Court. According to the Journalist’s Handbook to the Courts in the District of Columbia, a blogger must request permission to live-blog from a courtroom in advance of the proceeding, and the decision is entirely subject to the judge’s discretion.

Florida

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? Yes

Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.450 permits electronic media and still photography coverage of proceedings in both the appellate and trial courts. Under this rule, coverage is subject only to the authority of the presiding judge, who may prohibit coverage to control court proceedings, prevent distractions, maintain decorum, and assure fairness of the trial. Exclusion of the media is permissible only where it is shown that the proceedings will be adversely affected because of a “qualitative difference” between electronic and other forms of coverage.

Florida v. Palm Beach Newspapers, 395 So. 2d 544 (1981). At least one television camera operated by one photographer and no more than two still cameras operated by one still photographer are allowed in trial and appellate courtrooms at one time. The media are responsible for arranging pooling agreements.

The coverage equipment may not be distracting and members of the media have an affirmative duty to demonstrate to the judge, prior to proceedings, that the equipment is in compliance with the rule. Members of the media may not use artificial lighting; however, the court may modify or add to the courtroom’s light sources as long as the changes do not involve a public expense. The court decides the placement of the cameras and members of the media may not move about the courtroom while proceedings are underway. The media are prohibited from covering conferences amongst parties, like conferences between attorneys and their clients or attorneys and the judge.

Proposed Rule 2.451 would prohibit the use of electronic devices by jurors and other persons whose use is disruptive to the judicial proceeding.

Georgia

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? No

Media Guide Available? No

Probate Court Rule 10.10, Magistrate Court Rule 11, Juvenile Court Rules 26.1 and 26.2, and Municipal Court Rule 11 provide guidelines for extended media coverage in those judicial proceedings. If the court elects to grant approval for expanded media coverage of a proceeding, it must be "without partiality or preference to any person, news agency, or type of electronic or photographic coverage." Those requesting coverage in these proceedings must file a "timely written request" on a form provided by the court with the judge involved in the specific proceeding prior to the hearing or trial. The judge, at his or her discretion, may allow only one television or still photographer in the courtroom at any one time, thereby requiring a pooling arrangement. Any additional lights or flashbulbs must be approved by the judge beforehand. Lastly, under the Juvenile Court Rules, pictures of the child in juvenile proceedings are expressly prohibited.

Superior Court Rule 22, in addition to the above requirements, prohibits photographing or televising members of the jury, unless "the jury happens to be in the background of the topics being photographed."

In the Court of Appeals, written requests for coverage must be submitted at least seven days in advance. Further, radio and television media are required to supply the Court with an audio or video tape, respectively, of all proceedings covered. Only one "pooled" television camera with one operator and one still photographer, with not more than two cameras, is allowed in the courtroom at any one time.

In the Supreme Court, coverage is allowed without prior approval from the Court and the Supreme Court retains exclusive authority to limit, restrict, prohibit and terminate coverage. No more than four still photographers and four television cameras will be permitted in the courtroom at any time. All television cameras are restricted to the alcove of the courtroom, while still photographers may sit anywhere in the courtroom designated for use by the public.

Probate Court Rule 10.3 specifically addresses the use of cell phones in probate courtrooms. Cell phones shall not be heard in the courtroom, and the judge has the authority to further restrict the use of cell phones in the courtroom.

Hawaii

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? No

Electronic media and still photography coverage of proceedings are allowed in both the appellate and trial courts. Consent of the judge prior to coverage of a trial proceeding is required, but prior consent of the judge is not required for coverage of appellate proceedings. The judge may rule on the request orally and on the record or by written order if requested by any party, but shall make written findings of fact and conclusions of law if coverage is denied.

A request for coverage will be granted unless good cause is found to prohibit it. Good cause for denying coverage is presumed to exist when the proceeding is for the purpose of determining the admissibility of evidence, when child witnesses or complaining witnesses in a criminal sexual offense case are testifying, when testimony regarding trade secrets is being given, when a witness would be put in substantial jeopardy of bodily harm, or when testimony of undercover law enforcement agents involved in other ongoing undercover investigations is being received.

Coverage of proceedings which are closed to the public is prohibited. These proceedings include juvenile cases, child abuse and neglect cases, paternity and adoption cases, and grand jury proceedings. Coverage of jurors or prospective jurors is prohibited. Only one television camera and one still photographer, with not more than two still cameras are allowed in the courtroom at one time (although the judge may allow more at his/her discretion) and the media are responsible for arranging pooling agreements.

Any individual may request to record judicial proceedings. The recording device must be small and hand-held, have a built-in microphone, and be operated from the seat of the person recording. The request to the judge must be timely, and the judge decides whether or not to grant the request. Otherwise, the public is asked to turn off cell phones and electronic devices when they enter the courtroom.

Jurors are specifically instructed not to discuss the case being tried via "emailing, text messaging, tweeting, blogging or any other form of communication."

Idaho

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? No

Media Guide Available? Yes

Rule 45 of the Idaho Court Administrative Rules (ICAR) allows extended coverage of all public proceedings, provided permission to cover a proceeding is obtained in advance from the presiding judge. ICAR Rule 46 provides guidelines for the use of cameras in appellate proceedings.

In trial courts, the presiding judge may prohibit coverage or order that the identity of a participant be concealed when such coverage would have a substantial adverse effect upon that participant. Coverage of the jury, adoptions, mental health proceedings and other proceedings closed to the public is prohibited. Permission to photograph or broadcast a proceeding must be sought, in advance, from the presiding judge. Electronic flash or artificial lighting is prohibited, and the television camera may not "give any indication of whether it is operating."

Only one still photographer and one camera operator is permitted in the courtroom, and any pooling arrangements must be made by the media. If the judge decides to limit or prohibit coverage, the decision cannot be appealed.

In the Supreme Court, ICAR Rule 46(a) allows cameras to be set up or taken down in the press box as long as the activity does not distract from judicial proceedings. Flash photography and the use of additional lighting for video photography are prohibited. The court will provide an audio feed for television cameras and audio recorders, but no separate microphones may be used.

Cell phones and other electronic devices should be turned off or set to vibrate mode. Individuals may be able to use laptop computers in a courtroom, but the rule varies from courtroom to courtroom.

Illinois

Allows Cameras? No

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? Yes

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? No

Illinois Supreme Court Rule 63(A)(7) allows taking photos and broadcasting or televising coverage of court proceedings in Illinois only by order of the Supreme Court. The rule states that court proceedings should be conducted with dignity and decorum and without distraction. In addition, Illinois Revised Statutes, Chapter 735, § 8-701 specifies that no witness will be compelled to testify in any court in the state if any portion of his testimony is to be covered.

The Supreme Court of Illinois has authorized the use of cameras in some trial courtrooms. In January 2012, the Illinois Supreme Court announced a pilot program to allow news cameras and news recording in trial courtrooms. Before that, no cameras were allowed in trial courtrooms in Illinois. Under the pilot program, trial courts, known as Circuit courts, must apply for approval to enter the pilot program. The Supreme Court approves the Circuit courts for the program. After approval, media may request to cover certain cases. If the Circuit court has not applied for approval, or if the Supreme Court has not approved the Circuit, cameras are prohibited in that courtroom.

Under the pilot program for trial courts, the media, through a designated media coordinator, may request extended media coverage, defined as electronic camera and audio coverage. The trial judge and the chief judge have authority to disallow coverage, and decisions to deny coverage cannot be appealed. The request for coverage must occur 14 days before the proceedings; the judge has discretion to extend or reduce the time requirement. If extended media coverage is granted, no more than two video cameras and two still photographers are allowed to cover any one proceeding. The media is responsible for developing pooling agreements, and if an agreement cannot be reached, the court will deny coverage. A witness has the opportunity to object to coverage, but the ultimate decision to allow or disallow coverage belongs to the judge. An exception to this rule is in cases of sexual abuse: there will be no extended media coverage of a sexual abuse victim's testimony unless the victim consents. Likewise, victims of forcible felonies, police informants, undercover agents, and relocated witnesses may object to extended media coverage.

Camera placement in the courtroom is designated by the judge, and members of the media may not move about the courtroom or move equipment about the courtroom while the court is in session.

Extended media coverage is not allowed in trial courts for any juvenile, divorce, adoption, child custody, evidence suppression, trade secrets, or other legally private cases. Similarly, extended coverage is not allowed during jury selection, and the media may not cover the jury or individual jurors.

For coverage of appellate proceedings, consents are not required, although the judge or presiding officer, with good cause, may prohibit or terminate coverage at any time. Those wishing to cover a particular proceeding must notify the appropriate clerk of the court not less than five "court" days prior to the date the proceeding is scheduled to begin. Only one television camera operated by one camera person and two still cameras operated by one camera person are permitted in the courtroom at any one time. Artificial lighting of any kind is not allowed, and the media are responsible for any pooling arrangements.

Each county in Illinois determines its own policy for personal electronic devices in courtrooms. For example, Madison County prohibits cell phones in its courthouse. In Monroe County, cell phones are not allowed on the second floor of the courthouse where the courtrooms are located. In Bond County and St. Louis County, cell phones may be brought into the courthouses, but must go through security. In Washington County and Randolph County, individuals must leave their cell phones with security to enter the courthouse.

Indiana

Allows Cameras? No

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? Yes

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? Yes

Extended media coverage of oral arguments before the Indiana Supreme Court is allowed. Requests for coverage are to be made at least 24 hours prior to the start of the proceeding.

Beginning September 1, 1997 and continuing indefinitely, the Indiana Court of Appeals allows extended media coverage of its proceedings. Requests for coverage are to be made at least 48 hours prior to the start of the oral argument.

Indiana Code of Judicial Conduct Rule 2.17 prohibits that use of video equipment in courtrooms or areas adjacent thereto. In 1997, the Indiana Supreme Court authorized a pilot project for video and audio coverage of proceedings in certain Indiana courtrooms. The program permitted certain trial judges to consent to media coverage, subject to certain restrictions (no coverage of police informants, undercover agents, minors, victims of sexual offenses, jurors, witnesses at sentencing hearings, bench conferences, attorney-client communications, and conversations among counsel). On December 31, 2007, the pilot project ended with fewer than 10 test cases.

In January 2012, the Indiana Supreme Court authorized a limited pilot project for one media organization, The Times of Northwest Indiana, to webcast from three trial courtrooms. The three judges who agreed to participate in to the pilot program have wide discretion to allow or deny webcasting for the whole or part of a trial. The webcasts will be delayed at least two hours from the actual proceedings to allow for the judge to exercise discretion. All civil proceedings, except for those that are legally closed to the public, may be webcast. The Times may not webcast police informants, undercover agents, minors, victims of sex-related offenses, attorney-client communications, bench conferences, juvenile matters, jury selection, the jury proceedings held in chambers, custody and parenting time matters, guardianship and adoption, commitment, paternity, or no contact orders. Parties may object to the webcasting; the judge will consider their interests and the interests of justice and public education to determine whether to allow the webcast. The pilot program will run for 18 months and will be evaluated by a law school.

Court rules regarding personal electronic devices can vary from court to court. For example, in Steuben County, no cell phones are allowed in the courthouse.

Iowa

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes
Media Guide Available? Yes

Extended media coverage, defined as “broadcasting, televising, electronic recording, or photographing of judicial proceedings for the purpose of gathering and disseminating news to the public,” is generally permitted upon application to the presiding judge.” A media coordinator shall inform counsel and the judge of a request for coverage at least 14 days in advance of the proceeding. Iowa’s rules require that permission for extended media coverage be granted, unless the coverage will interfere with the rights of the parties or a witness or party provides a good cause why coverage should not be permitted. In certain types of proceedings, such as sexual abuse trials, witness or party consent is required.

Extended media coverage is not permitted, however, during jury selection or if a private proceeding is required by law. Prolonged or unnecessary coverage of jurors should be prevented to the extent practicable.

Written requests to use photographic equipment, television cameras, etc. must be made, in advance to the Media Coordinator, and equipment must meet certain specifications. Flash photography and other supplemental light sources are prohibited. Pooling arrangements must be made by the media.

All regularly scheduled Supreme Court oral arguments taking place in the Supreme Court’s courtroom are subject to expanded media coverage and are not subject to objections by witnesses or parties.

There is no statewide policy regarding personal electronic devices; however, many state judges have issued administrative orders concerning using cell phones in the courtroom. For example, in Iowa’s Fifth Judicial District, cell phones may be brought into the courthouse and used in public areas; however, cell phones must be turned off before entering the courtroom. The Fifth Judicial District specifically prohibits an individual’s use of a cell phone’s camera or video function unless the individual obtains express permission from the chief judge.

Kansas

Allows Cameras? Yes
Does Not Allow Cameras? No
Partial Allowance of Cameras? No
Audio or Video Webcast? Yes
Media Guide Available? No

Rule 1001 of the Kansas Supreme Court authorizes extended media coverage of appellate and trial court proceedings and extends coverage to state municipal court proceedings. Under this rule, coverage is permissible only by the news media and educational television stations and only for news or educational purposes.

The media must give at least one week’s notice of its intention to cover a proceeding. However, this requirement may be waived upon a showing of good cause. Photographing of individual jurors is prohibited, and where coverage of the jury is unavoidable, no close-ups may be taken. Consents of the participants are not required. The presiding judge may prohibit coverage of individual participants at his discretion; however, if a participant is a police informant, undercover agent, relocated or juvenile witness, or victim/witness and requests not to be covered, the judge must prohibit coverage of that person. Coverage of a participant in proceedings involving motions to suppress evidence, divorce, or trade secrets will also be prohibited, if the participant so requests. Coverage of materials on counsel tables and photographing through the windows or open doors of the courtroom is also prohibited. Moreover, criminal defendants may not be photographed in restraints as they are being escorted to or

from court proceedings prior to rendition of the verdict. Only one television camera, operated by one person, and one still photographer, using not more than two cameras, are authorized in any one court proceeding.

Kentucky

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? Yes

Electronic coverage is permitted in all appellate and trial court proceedings. Consents of the parties are not required, but coverage is subject to the authority of the presiding judge. Requests for coverage should be made to the judge presiding over the proceeding for which coverage is desired. Coverage of attorney-client conferences or conferences at the bench are prohibited. Only one television camera and one still photographer, with not more than two still cameras, are allowed in the courtroom at any one time, and the media are responsible for any pooling arrangements. Juvenile proceedings are closed to the public.

Louisiana

Allows Cameras? No

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? Yes

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? No

Electronic coverage of appellate proceedings is allowed, while coverage at the trial level is generally prohibited. In the district courts, family courts, and juvenile courts, Louisiana District Court Rule 6.1 states that a judge should prohibit coverage at least during sessions of court and recesses from sessions. In addition, a trial judge may also prohibit the use of electronic devices, like cell phones, in the courtroom. Those wishing to cover trial-level proceedings should consult with the courts of that district or parish concerning coverage. A trial judge may authorize coverage of ceremonial proceedings, or when the coverage is for educational use, does not distract parties or detract from the dignity of the court, is consented to, and is seen after the entire matter is finalized.

At the appellate level, each court and its judge or panel has the authority to allow coverage; the court may prohibit coverage to ensure the fair administration of justice and to maintain control and decorum in the courtroom. Obtaining the consent of the involved parties is not required, although the Court may prohibit coverage upon its own motion or if an objection is made by a party. Notice of intent to cover a proceeding must be made at least 20 days in advance or, in expedited proceedings, within a reasonable time before the proceeding is scheduled to occur. No more than two television cameras, each operated by no more than one camera person, and one still photographer, using not more than two still cameras with not more than two lenses for each camera, will be permitted in the courtroom during proceedings. In addition, the media are responsible for any pooling arrangements.

The Louisiana Supreme Court provides a live webcast of oral arguments.

Maine

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No
Partial Allowance of Cameras? No
Audio or Video Webcast? Yes
Media Guide Available? No

Cameras and audio recording coverage are allowed in Maine Supreme Judicial Court, Superior Court, and District Court. Judges have the sole discretion to permit video and audio coverage and consider whether such coverage will negatively affect the court proceedings. If the judge denies coverage, the party seeking coverage may ask the judge to reconsider, but orders regarding coverage are not reviewable.

In the Supreme Judicial Court, one must file a notice of intent to cover public sessions, however, prior approval is not required. The Clerk of the Court will instruct individuals or organizations regarding camera placement, and equipment cannot have any insignia or other display of affiliation. The Court will only allow one video camera and one still camera during a proceeding, and the media are responsible for pooling.

For civil proceedings in the lower courts, coverage is allowed in all proceedings except for cases involving the Family Division, child custody, child protection, adoption, paternity, parental rights, protection from abuse or harassment, sexual assault, sexual misconduct, trade secrets, or legally closed matters. In addition, alleged victims and people with detectable physical or mental disabilities may elect to be excluded from coverage. Coverage of the jury is prohibited, along with coverage of conferences among lawyers, clients, witnesses, or judges.

For criminal proceedings in lower courts, judges must approve coverage in advance of the proceedings. The media, with approval, may cover the nontestimonial portions of arraignments, bail hearings, pretrial motions, sentencing proceedings, post-trial motions, probation revocation proceedings, and petitions for post-conviction review. In jury trials, coverage of the jury is prohibited. The media may cover opening and closing statements, jury instructions, and the delivery of the verdict, but may not cover witness testimony. In addition, the media may not cover grand jury proceedings, minors under 18, or conferences among lawyers, clients, witnesses, or judges.

In the lower courts, the judge decides how many cameras are allowed in the courtroom and where they will be placed. Any person or organization must notify the clerk of the court in writing regarding the intent to cover a proceeding. The camera and the recording personnel should not distract from the proceedings, and the equipment cannot bear any insignia or other display of affiliation. The media are responsible for pooling.

Maine courts do not allow people to use electronic devices in the courtroom. Under an administrative order, Maine requires people to turn off cell phones, pagers, computers, and other electronic devices in the courtroom. Electronic devices with cameras that are not authorized for use may be confiscated.

Maryland

Allows Cameras? No
Does Not Allow Cameras? No
Partial Allowance of Cameras? Yes
Audio or Video Webcast? Yes
Media Guide Available? Yes

Maryland Rule of Procedure 16-109 governs media coverage of courtroom proceedings. In the absence of a statutory provision requiring closed proceedings or permitting closed proceedings,

coverage is permitted at civil trials, upon written consent of all the parties. Consent is not required, however, from a party that represents the government, or from an individual being sued in his or her governmental capacity. At the appellate level, consent is not required, but a party may move to limit or terminate coverage at any time. Requests for coverage must be submitted to the clerk of the court where the proceedings will be held at least five days before the trial begins. Coverage of jury selection, jurors or courtroom spectators, private conferences between an attorney and a client or conferences at the bench is prohibited. There is a presumption that good cause exists to prohibit or limit, on the presiding judge's own initiative, coverage of cases involving custody, divorce, minors, relocated witnesses, and trade secrets. Not more than one television camera is permitted in any trial court proceeding, and not more than two are allowed in appellate proceedings. Only one still photographer, with not more than two cameras with not more than two lenses each, is allowed in both trial and appellate proceedings. Pooling arrangements are the sole responsibility of the media.

Rule 16-110 requires cell phones and other electronic devices to be turned off in courtrooms and prohibits their use for video or photographs.

Coverage is prohibited in criminal trials.

Some Maryland courts have rules that specifically govern the use of electronic devices in the courtroom. For example, in Prince George's County, Maryland, devices that are designed to receive commercial signals, like electronic games or MP3 players are prohibited from the courtroom. Cell phones, including cell phones with camera and video streaming capabilities, PDAs, laptops, pagers, and electronic calendars are allowed in courtrooms; however, cell phones and pagers must be turned to silent. Individuals who would like to use the electronic devices to take pictures or record events must obtain prior approval from the judge, and individuals who would like to use laptops must obtain prior approval from the judge. In Howard County, electronic devices like cell phones and laptops are allowed in the courthouse, but must be turned off and stored so that the device is not visible. The devices cannot be used to send or receive messages unless expressly authorized by a judge, or unless the individual is using the device in the lobby, hallway, or offices and is not disturbing others.

Massachusetts

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? Yes

Rule 1:19 of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts permits extended coverage of all proceedings open to the public except hearings on motions to suppress or to dismiss, or of probable cause or jury selection hearings. Close-up shots of bench conferences, conferences between attorneys, or attorney-client conferences is prohibited. Frontal and close-up photography of the jury "should not usually be permitted." The media must submit requests for coverage to the presiding judge "reasonably" in advance of the proceeding to be covered, or risk denial. Before a party or a witness may move to limit media coverage, it must first notify the Bureau Chief, Newspaper Editor, or Broadcast Editor of the Associated Press. Oral arguments before the Supreme Judicial Court are available by webcast.

In 2012, the Massachusetts Supreme Court held in favor of a National Public Radio (NPR) pilot project that streams certain court proceedings online. NPR's pilot project, called OpenCourt, broadcasts one district court's court proceedings live by streaming video and audio on the Internet. The Supreme Judicial Court Media-Judiciary committee approved OpenCourt. The Supreme Court held that "any

order restricting OpenCourt's ability to publish -- by "streaming live" over the Internet, publicly archiving on the website or otherwise -- existing audio and video recordings of court room proceedings represents a form of prior restraint on the freedoms of the press and speech protected by the First Amendment and art." In addition, the Court requested that the Judiciary-Media committee develop guidelines for the pilot program.

Michigan

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? Yes

Extended coverage of judicial proceedings is permitted, but requests for coverage must be made in writing not less than three business days before the proceeding is scheduled to begin. A judge may terminate, suspend or exclude coverage at any time upon a finding, made and articulated on the record that the rules for coverage have been violated or that the fair administration of justice requires such action. Such decisions are not appealable. Coverage of jurors or the jury selection process is not permitted. The judge has sole discretion to exclude coverage of certain witnesses, including but not limited to, the victims of sex crimes and their families, police informants, undercover agents and relocated witnesses.

Michigan Court Rule 8.115 governs the use of cell phones and other electronic devices in courtrooms. Each court facility has the authority to develop a policy for the use of electronic equipment outside of courtrooms. In courtrooms, the chief judge has the authority to establish a policy for the use of portable electronic equipment, like cell phones and laptops. No judge may allow people using portable electronic devices to take photographs of jurors or witnesses, and each individual using a portable electronic device to coverage a court proceeding must obtain permission from the judge. Under this rule, individuals may live blog, tweet, or cover court proceedings in some other way if the coverage is allowed under the rules of the chief judge and approved.

Minnesota

Allows Cameras? No

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? Yes

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? Yes

Expanded coverage is permitted at both the trial and appellate level, but at the trial level, the judge and all parties must consent to coverage prior to commencement of the trial.

Minnesota General Rules of Practice Rules 4.01-4.03 govern coverage of district courts. Effective July 1, 2011, Minnesota is implementing a two year pilot project allowing a judge to authorize recording of court proceedings with the consent of all parties in criminal proceedings and without the consent of all parties in civil proceedings. All courtroom coverage must occur in the presence of the presiding judge. Coverage of witnesses who object prior to testifying and coverage of jurors is prohibited, as is coverage of hearings that take place outside of the presence of the jury. Coverage is prohibited in cases involving child custody, divorce, juvenile proceedings, child protection proceedings, paternity proceedings, civil commitment proceedings, petitions for orders for protection, hearings on suppression

of evidence, police informants, relocated witnesses, sex crimes, trade secrets, and undercover agents.

To cover trial court proceedings, the media must give written notice of the intent to cover the proceedings at least 10 days before the proceedings begin. A party who opposes coverage may object to coverage and must do so at least 3 days before the proceedings begin. The judge has discretion to allow or prohibit coverage and will decide before the proceedings begin. The judge also has discretion to limit or terminate cover at any point during the proceeding. The decision of the judge can be appealed, but only after the proceeding has been completed and only by a party.

The trial court judge also has the authority to regulate the means by which coverage occurs. In the absence of a specific order, Rule 4.04 sets forth default technical standards. No more than one movie camera with one operator and two still cameras with one photographer are allowed in the proceeding. Only one audio system for radio broadcast is allowed. The media are responsible for pooling agreements. Recording equipment cannot produce distracting sounds or lights. The trial judge determines the location of recording equipment.

At the appellate level, Minnesota Rules of Civil Appellate Procedure Rule 134.10 governs coverage. Consents of the parties and witnesses are not required, but the Clerk of the Appellate Courts must be notified of an intent to cover the proceedings at least 24 hours in advance of the coverage. Only one television camera and one still photographer, using not more than two cameras with two lenses each are permitted in the courtroom during proceedings. The media may not use motor-driven still cameras. The court determines the location for all recording equipment. The media are responsible for arranging pooling agreements.

Mississippi

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? No

Mississippi's Rules for Electronic and Photographic Coverage of Judicial Proceedings ("MREPC"), permit electronic media coverage of judicial proceedings (trial, pre-trial hearings, post-trial hearings and appellate arguments) in Mississippi's Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, chancery courts, circuit courts and county courts.

Electronic coverage is subject to the authority of the presiding judge who may limit or terminate coverage at any time if there is a need to (1) control the conduct of the proceedings; (2) ensure decorum and prevent distraction; or (3) ensure fair administration of justice. Any party may object by written motion, filed no later than 15 days prior to the proceeding, unless good cause allows for a shorter filing period. Under MREPC the media is required to notify the clerk and the court of any plans to cover a proceeding at least 48 hours prior to the proceeding.

The media must comply with certain coverage restrictions. Electronic coverage of police informants; minors; undercover agents; relocated witnesses; victims and families of victims of sex crimes; victims of domestic abuse, and members or potential members of the jury (before their final dismissal) is expressly prohibited. In addition, audio recordings of off-the-record conferences and coverage of closed proceedings are also prohibited. Similarly, coverage of divorce; child custody; support; guardianship; conservatorship; commitment; waiver of parental consent to abortion; adoption; delinquency and neglect of minors; paternity proceedings; termination of parental rights; domestic abuse; motions to

suppress evidence; proceedings involving trade secrets; and in camera proceedings are prohibited unless authorized by the presiding judge.

Only one television camera, one video recorder, one audio system, and one still camera are allowed in the courtroom at one time and the media are responsible for pooling arrangements. If the media cannot agree to a pooling arrangement, all contesting media personnel shall be excluded from the proceeding. Electronic media coverage may not distract from the courtroom proceedings, and in accordance with this principle, no artificial, flash or strobe lighting is allowed in the courtroom without the notification and approval of the presiding judge. All wires must be taped to the floor and equipment may only be moved before or after a proceeding or during a recess. The presiding judge may “relax” the technical restrictions so long as no distractions are created.

In 2005, the Mississippi Supreme Court, in *In re WLBT, Inc.*, set aside a circuit court’s order to prohibit television coverage of a high profile case. The court stated that “the complete exclusion of cameras should be resorted to only after less restrictive measures have been considered and found to be inadequate.” In this case, the lower court judge failed to give sufficient reasons for denying television coverage, so the high court held in favor of coverage.

In the Mississippi Supreme Court and Court of Appeals, both housed in the Carroll Gartin Justice Building, laptops are permitted. Cell phones are also permitted in the courtroom, however, they must be turned off. The appellate courts do not allow members of the general public to use tape recording devices, video recording devices, or cameras unless the individual has permission.

Missouri

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? Yes

Media coverage at both the trial and appellate levels is permitted, but coverage of jury selection, juvenile, adoption, domestic relations, and child custody cases is not permitted. The media may, upon permission of the judge, record a juvenile being prosecuted as an adult. Requests for coverage must be made to the media coordinator, in writing, at least five days in advance of the scheduled proceeding, and the media coordinator must then give written notice of the request to counsel for all parties, parties appearing without counsel, and the judge at least four days in advance of the proceeding. Coverage of objecting participants who are victims of crimes, police informants, undercover agents, relocated witnesses, or juveniles is prohibited. Further, the judge may prohibit coverage of any or all of a participant’s testimony, either upon the objection of the participant, party, or the court’s own motion. Only one television camera and one still photographer, using not more than two cameras with two lenses each, are allowed in the courtroom at any one time. The media are responsible for all pooling arrangements.

Montana

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? No

Media Guide Available? No

Coverage of trial and appellate courts is permitted, though judges may restrict coverage of proceedings upon a finding that media coverage will “substantially and materially interfere with the primary function of the court to resolve disputes fairly under the law.”

Nebraska

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? No

Media Guide Available? No

Media coverage in the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals is explicitly permitted, but this right is only afforded to "persons or organizations which are part of the news media." Party consent is not required, although a party may file an objection to media coverage before commencement of the proceeding in question.

Broadcasting and photographing from other courtrooms is generally prohibited except where authorized under rules prescribed by the Nebraska Supreme Court. Several trial courts are operating under an experimental policy for expanded media coverage. Under the experimental rules a judge will grant permission for expanded media coverage unless the judge determines that such coverage would interfere with the rights of the parties to a fair trial. Coverage must be requested through the media coordinator at least 14 days in advance. Expanded coverage is not permitted for private proceedings, such as juvenile, dissolution, adoption, child custody, or trade secrets cases, unless there is consent from all parties. Witnesses can object to coverage of their testimony, but they must show good cause unless the testimony is related to sexual abuse or a forcible felony or if the witness is a police informant, undercover agent, or relocated witness, in which case there is a rebuttable presumption of good cause. Expanded coverage of jurors is generally prohibited, except if the judge permits coverage of the return of the jury's verdict.

In all courts, no more than one television camera with one operator, and no more than one still photographer with no more than two cameras will be permitted in the courtroom at one time. Media are responsible for their own pooling arrangements.

Nebraska's Appellate Courts provide live video webcasts of oral arguments, along with audio archives dating back to September 2008.

Nevada

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? No

Supreme Court Rules 229-246 govern electronic coverage of court proceedings in Nevada. These rules are broad and extend to new media: news reporters are defined as “any person who gathers, prepares, collects, . . . reports, or publishes news or information,” and electronic coverage includes using “cellular phones with photographic or recording capabilities.” Generally, electronic coverage of court proceedings, including the use of cameras and cellular phones, is prohibited unless the news reporter obtains express permission from the judge. There is a presumption that all court proceedings open to the public are subject to electronic coverage.

To cover court proceedings, a news reporter must obtain permission. The reporter must submit a written request to cover at least 24 hours before the proceeding begins. The judge will consider the following factors to determine whether to permit electronic coverage: (1) the right to a fair trial, (2) the right of privacy, (3) the safety and well-being of parties and witnesses, (4) the likelihood that coverage will be a distraction and detract from the dignity of the court, (5) the physical facilities of the court for coverage, and (6) the fair administration of justice. If the judge allows coverage, the judge may revoke the permission at any time.

News reporters must designate a representative for the court to consult regarding coverage. Only one camera person and one still photographer are allowed in a court proceeding, unless a judge specifically authorizes more news reporters to record the proceedings. Likewise, only one audio system can be used. News reporters are responsible for pooling; to be eligible to participate in the camera pool, the news reporter must obtain permission through the court. News reporters in a pool should have equal access to data and share costs evenly. The judge will determine the placement of cameras, but the rules require that the location of the camera must allow for "reasonable access to coverage."

News reporters may not deliberately photograph jurors, even though the rules recognize that it may be impossible to avoid photographing some jurors during some parts of proceedings. In addition, news reporters may not cover privileged conferences. Even though consent of participants is not required for coverage, the judge may prohibit the coverage of an individual who does not consent. Recordings of court proceedings may not be used for advertising purposes.

Unobtrusive electronic devices—like tape recorders, cell phones, PDAs, and laptops—may be allowed by the judge, however, these devices should be used for personal notetaking and not for broadcasting. If a news reporter wants to use these other devices to record or broadcast, the reporter must obtain permission from the court in the same way the reporter would obtain permission for a traditional camera. Electronic devices may be used to transmit and receive data communications, but may not be used for phone calls.

New Hampshire

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? No

Rule 19 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of the State of New Hampshire permits coverage of the oral proceedings of the Supreme Court. To record, photograph, or broadcast the oral proceedings of the Supreme Court, any person must give the court prior notice and must obtain the consent of the court. A person covering the Supreme Court proceedings may not impair the order of the court. No more than one still photographer and one videographer may cover a proceeding, and the court will determine the exact location of cameras and audio equipment. People covering proceedings may use handheld tape recorders, but they must place the recorders in a specific location in the courtroom. Generally, cell phones should be turned off or muted.

Rule 78 of the Rules of the Superior Court of the State of New Hampshire permits any person to photograph, record, or broadcast Superior Court proceedings so long as that person provides advance notice. Rule 78 specifies that a person does not have to be a member of the established media to cover proceedings. Parties to court proceedings and interested parties may request that a

court prohibits or limits coverage; in the event of such a request, the court will hold a hearing and the party seeking to prohibit or limit coverage must show: “(1) that the relief sought advances an overriding public interest that is likely to be prejudiced if the relief is not granted; (2) that the relief sought is no broader than necessary to protect that interest; and (3) that no reasonable less restrictive alternatives are available to protect the interest.” The presiding judge retains authority to determine the number of recording devices and their placement in the court; the presiding judge may also require pooling. Rule 78 sets forth a number of technical default rules, including a rule that prohibits flash devices and a rule that prohibits the disruptive dismantling of equipment during a proceeding; the presiding judge may alter these default rules.

Rule 1.4 of the Rules of the Circuit Court of the State of New Hampshire—District Division permits any person to photograph, record, or broadcast District Court proceedings so long as that person provides advance notice. Rule 1.4 is substantially similar to Rule 78, the rule that governs coverage of the Superior Court.

Electronic devices, like laptops and cell phones, are permitted in New Hampshire courtrooms; however, cell phones must be put on silent mode. In addition, audio recorders, video recorders, and still cameras, including those devices in cell phones, may be used, but must comply with Supreme Court Rule 19, Superior Court Rule 78, and District Court Rule 1.4.

New Jersey

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? No

Canon 3A(9) of the New Jersey Code of Judicial Conduct exhorts judges to allow “bona fide media” to cover proceedings. To this end, the Supreme Court has issued a set of guidelines for media coverage, which grants judges some latitude in limiting coverage, especially where the coverage may result in a substantial likelihood of harm to a witness or party. Unlike other jurisdictions, the media are granted the right to appeal any order excluding or varying coverage. Photography of the jury is prohibited, and photography and audio recording is prohibited in certain types of proceedings, such as juvenile proceedings, proceedings to terminate parental rights, child abuse/neglect proceedings, custody proceedings, and “proceedings involving charges of sexual contact or charges of sexual penetration or attempts thereof when the victim is alive.” Photography and audio recordings of crime victims under the age of 18 or witnesses under the age of 14 may be permitted at the trial judge’s discretion. Additionally, while coverage of juvenile proceedings is usually forbidden, courts, in their discretion, may allow coverage of 17-year old defendants in proceedings involving motor vehicle violations. The media are responsible for pooling arrangements.

New Mexico

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? No

Media Guide Available? Yes

Electronic coverage of proceedings in the state’s appellate and trial courts is permitted, although the judge may limit or deny coverage for good cause. The judge also has wide discretion to exclude

coverage of certain types of witnesses, including, but not limited to, the victims of sex crimes and their families, police informants, undercover agents, relocated witnesses and juveniles. Filming of the jury or any juror is prohibited, as is filming of jury selection. Coverage of any attorney-client or attorney-court conferences is prohibited. Those wishing to cover a proceeding must notify the clerk of the particular court at least 24 hours in advance of the proceeding. Only one television camera and two still photographers, each with one camera are allowed in the courtroom at any one time, and any pooling arrangements are the responsibility of the media.

In 1982, the New Mexico Supreme Court set forth requirements for judges to follow before they can limit coverage in New Mexico courtrooms. In *State ex rel. New Mexico Press Association v. Kaufman*, 648 P.2d 300 (N.M. 1982), the Supreme Court held:

“Before placing restrictions on the media, some minimum form of notice should be given to the media and a hearing held. Anyone present should be given an opportunity to object. These proceedings should take place in advance of the date set for trial, if possible, to avoid delays and postponements. .

The court should weigh the competing interests of the defendant and the public and determine if the limitation sought would be effective in protecting the interests threatened and if it would be the least restrictive means available. The court is charged with the duty of considering all reasonable alternatives to limiting media coverage. Its consideration of these issues should be articulated in oral or written findings and conclusions in the record, but formal findings, conclusions are not necessary. The order must be no broader in application or duration than necessary to serve its purpose.”

New York

Allows Cameras? No

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? Yes

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? No

Appellate Courts

Electronic photographic recording of proceedings in appellate courts is permitted, subject to the approval of the respective appellate court. Consent to coverage by parties or the attorneys is not required and any objections by attorneys or parties are limited to those showing good cause. Only two television cameras and two still photographers are allowed in the courtroom at any one time, and coverage is subject to various other technical conditions concerning media equipment.

The New York Court of Appeals provides live webcasts of oral arguments, with archives of selected arguments.

Trial Courts

Section 52 of the Civil Rights Law (“Section 52”) imposes a per se ban on all televising of trial court proceedings, no matter what the circumstances of the case or the assessment of the presiding judge. The statute became effective on July 1, 1997, when Section 218 of the Judiciary Law (“Section 218”) expired by operation of law. For all but one of the prior ten years, Section 218 had allowed, subject to specific limits in certain types of cases and with respect to certain trial participants, the televising of trials in New York State. In 1997, the Legislature failed to renew Section 218, resulting in the reimposition of Section 52, and thus barring extended coverage of trial proceedings. In response to the per se ban, a number of trial judges ruled Section 52 unconstitutional and permitted camera coverage. On June 16, 2005, however, the New York Court of Appeals effectively ended the debate by affirming a

lower court's holding that Section 52 is constitutional. Unless the Legislature enacts a statute overruling the Court of Appeals, cameras will not be allowed in trial court proceedings for the foreseeable future.

North Carolina

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? No

Media Guide Available? Yes

The rules for coverage require that the equipment and personnel used in coverage be neither seen nor heard by anyone inside the courtroom and that all personnel and equipment be located in an area set apart by a booth or partition with appropriate openings to allow photographic coverage. The presiding trial judge may permit coverage without booths, however, if coverage would not disrupt the proceedings or distract the jurors. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals may waive the booth requirements in proceedings in these courts. Hand-held audio tape recorders may be used upon prior notification to, and with the approval of, the presiding judge.

The rules do not require the consents of participants, but prohibit coverage of jurors. In addition, coverage of certain types of proceedings, such as adoption, divorce, juvenile proceedings, and trade secrets cases, is prohibited. Coverage of certain types of witnesses, such as police informants, undercover agents, victims of sex crimes and their families, and minor witnesses is also not permitted. Only two television cameras and one still photographer with no more than two cameras are allowed in the courtroom at any one time, and the media are responsible for any pooling arrangements.

North Dakota

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? No

Extended media coverage is authorized in all courts. The judge may deny media coverage of any proceeding or portion of a proceeding in which the judge determines that media coverage would materially interfere with a party's right to a fair trial or when a witness or party objects and shows good cause why expanded coverage should not be permitted. The judge may also deny coverage if the coverage would include testimony of an adult victim or witness in sex offense prosecutions; or would include a juvenile victim or witness in proceedings in which illegal sexual activity is an element of the evidence; or coverage would include undercover or relocated witnesses.

Coverage of proceedings held in chambers, proceedings closed to the public, and jury selection is prohibited.

Conferences between an attorney and client, witness or aide, between attorneys, or between counsel and the bench may not be recorded or received by sound equipment. Further, close up photography of jurors is also prohibited.

Requests for expanded media coverage of the Supreme Court must be made at least seventy-two hours before the proceeding and must be made by regular mail and, if possible, by facsimile with copies to counsel of record.

The North Dakota Supreme Court provides live audio webcasts of oral arguments with archives dating back one calendar year.

Requests for expanded media coverage of trial court proceedings must be made to the presiding judge at least seven days before the proceeding. Notice of the request must be given to all counsel of record and any pro se parties. The notice must be in writing and filed with proof of service with the clerk of the appropriate court.

Ohio

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? Yes

Rule 12 of the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio requires judges to permit coverage of proceedings that are open to the public, subject to certain exceptions.

At the trial level, coverage of objecting witnesses and victims is prohibited. The judge is also required to inform victims and witnesses of their right to object to coverage.

Requests for coverage must be submitted to the presiding judge, as the consent of the judge is required for coverage to take place. Only one still photographer and one television camera are permitted in the courtroom, unless the judge grants permission to use additional cameras. Coverage of attorney-client conferences and any bench conferences is prohibited. In addition to these rules, local courts may impose additional obligations and requirement for extended coverage.

Rule 12 may be modified by local rules. For example, the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas requires broadcasters to use the court's audio system and permits coverage requests to be made up to thirty (30) minutes before the start of the proceeding.

The Ohio Supreme Court provides live video webcasts of oral arguments, with archives dating back to March 2004. The Court also provides podcast audio on iTunes.

Oklahoma

Allows Cameras? No Rules

Does Not Allow Cameras? No Rules

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No Rules

Audio or Video Webcast? No

Media Guide Available? No

Oklahoma Code of Judicial Conduct Canon 3 previously prohibited the use of cameras or other broadcasting equipment from courtrooms without the express permission from the judge. This rule was superseded in April 2011; there is currently no rule regarding the use of cameras in Oklahoma courtrooms.

Oregon

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No
Partial Allowance of Cameras? No
Audio or Video Webcast? Yes
Media Guide Available? No

The Oregon Constitution contains a provision that helps to ensure that courts remain open and accessible. Oregon Constitution Article I Section 10 provides that “no court shall be secret, but justice shall be administered, openly and without purchase, completely and without delay, and every man shall have remedy by due course of law for injury done him in his person, property, or reputation.”

In the appellate courts, broad discretion to permit or deny coverage is vested in the judge, who may deny coverage to “control the conduct of the proceedings before the court, insure decorum and prevent distractions, and insure the fair administration of justice in proceedings before the court.” Only one television camera and one still photographer are allowed in the courtroom at any one time, and any pooling arrangements are the responsibility of the media.

At the trial court level, “public access coverage” is allowed, but a judge may deny coverage if there is a “reasonable likelihood” that the coverage would interfere with the rights of the parties to a fair trial, would affect the presentation of evidence or the outcome of the trial, or if “any cost or increased burden resulting” from the coverage would interfere with the “efficient administration of justice.” Public access coverage is not limited to the traditional media, but includes any person using “television equipment; still photography equipment; audio, video, or other electronic recording equipment.” Coverage of dissolution, juvenile, paternity, adoption, custody, visitation, support, mental commitment, trade secrets, and abuse, restraining and stalking order proceedings is prohibited. Also, coverage of sex offense proceedings will be prohibited at the victim’s request. Upon request, those covering a proceeding must provide a copy of the coverage to the court and “any other person, if the requestor pays actual copying expense.”

Courts may adopt local rules to establish procedural requirements governing media access.

Pennsylvania

Allows Cameras? No
Does Not Allow Cameras? No
Partial Allowance of Cameras? Yes
Audio or Video Webcast? No
Media Guide Available? No

Photography and broadcasting of judicial proceedings are generally prohibited in both civil and criminal trials. Canon 3A(7) of the Code of Judicial Conduct governs judges’ ability to prohibit or allow electronic coverage of court proceedings. Canon 3(a)(7) permits judges to authorize media coverage of non-jury civil proceedings. Coverage of support, custody, and divorce proceedings is prohibited. A judge may only authorize coverage with the consent of the parties. Additionally, coverage of objecting witnesses is prohibited. Media wishing to seek permission to cover a proceeding should speak in advance with the courtroom staff, as the presiding judge must expressly authorize coverage. Local rules may vary.

Under Pennsylvania Rules for Magisterial District Judges Rule 7, coverage is prohibited in proceedings before District Justices. Similarly, Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure Rule 12 prohibits coverage of any judicial proceedings and transmission of communications by phone, radio, television, or other advanced communication technology.

The Supreme Court allows the Pennsylvania Cable Network (PCN) to record its proceedings and broadcast the proceedings after approval. Section 11 of the Internal Operating Procedures of the Supreme Court governs PCN's coverage of the high court. PCN is allowed to record all proceedings in front of the Supreme Court that are not sealed; the proceedings will not be broadcast live. The Supreme Court may limit, terminate, or remove camera personnel to protect the rights of the parties of the proceedings. Except by direction of the Supreme Court to limit the coverage, PCN must broadcast the proceedings "gavel-to-gavel." Section 11 mandates that only robotic cameras be used to record proceedings, and that recording equipment shall not be distracting.

Rules regarding the use of personal electronic devices in the courtroom vary from court to court. For example, the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County prohibits the use of all electronic devices within the Family Law Center. This prohibition includes video cameras, cell phones, cell phones with cameras, PDAs, or any other device that would permit the user to take pictures, transmit communications, or record sound.

Another example of rules regarding the use of personal electronic devices in the courtroom is the high-profile Sandusky criminal trial. In the Sandusky trial, Judge John M. Cleland in May 2012 issued a Decorum Order that would allow credentialed members of the media to text or tweet from the courtroom, using cell phones, laptops, or other electronic devices, so long as the members did not take or transmit photographs and did not transmit any verbatim account of the proceedings.

According to Judge Cleland, this Decorum Order was allowed under Criminal Procedure Rule 112 and Code of Judicial Conduct Canon 3(7) because texting and tweeting is distinct from broadcasting. In June 2012, Judge Cleland rescinded the portion of the Decorum Order that allowed for texting and tweeting. Judge Cleland reasoned that his May order was confusing to reporters, and he cited the Criminal Procedure Rules Committee's January 2012 Personal Communications Devices in the Courtroom Report that stated that tweeting and blogging from the courtroom is not allowed under Rule 112. Therefore, for the high-profile Sandusky criminal trial, reporters were allowed to possess and use electronic devices as "tools of the trade," but were not allowed to use electronic devices to transmit any type of communication from the courtroom.

Rhode Island

Allows Cameras? No

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? Yes

Audio or Video Webcast? No

Media Guide Available? Yes

The courts of Rhode Island permit extended media coverage, however a judge has "sole discretion" to "entirely exclude media coverage of any proceeding or trial over which he or she presides." Exclusion by the trial court may also be based on a party's request for non-coverage. Coverage of juvenile, adoption or any other matters in the Family Court "in which juveniles are significant participants" is prohibited. Coverage of hearings which take place outside of the jury's presence (e.g., hearings regarding motion to suppress evidence) is not permitted. After the jury has been impaneled, individual jurors may be photographed, with their consent. Where photographing of the jury is unavoidable, close-ups that clearly identify individual jurors are not permitted.

Only one television camera operated by one photographer are allowed in trial courts, and no more than two television cameras operated by one photographer each are allowed in appellate courts. The media must arrange for any pooling arrangements.

Courthouse rules strictly prohibit the use of cell phones, including the use of cell phones for camera and video, in Rhode Island courtrooms. In addition, the courthouse rules prohibit photographic and audio-visual equipment of any type.

South Carolina

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? No

Media Guide Available? No

Extended media coverage is permitted, but presiding judges are given significant discretion to limit coverage. Those wishing to cover a proceeding must give the presiding judge "reasonable notice" of the request for coverage, and the judge may request a written notice. The judge may also refuse, limit or terminate media coverage of an entire case, portions thereof, or testimony of particular witnesses. Coverage of prospective jurors is prohibited and members of the jury may not be photographed except when they happen to be in the background of other subjects being photographed. Two television cameras and two still-photographers are allowed in the courtroom at one time, and the media are responsible for any pooling arrangements. Media personnel's equipment and clothing must not "bear the insignia or marking of any media agency," and the cameraperson must wear "appropriate business attire."

South Dakota

Allows Cameras? No

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? Yes

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? No

Extended coverage of trial and intermediate appellate court proceedings is permitted with the consent of the judge and all parties at least one week prior to the commencement of trial. Supreme Court Rules 10-8 and 10-9 effectively adopted recommendations of the Study of Cameras in the Courtroom Committee effective July 1, 2011. Members of the jury may not be photographed and proceedings outside the presence of the jury are not to be recorded. The court has discretion over the type and quantity of equipment to be used. The court is also entitled to a copy of any audio or video recordings for archiving.

Expanded media coverage of Supreme Court proceedings is permitted. Under Rule 15-24-6, the court can limit media coverage where it is necessary in the interest of justice. The court has the right to request a copy of any recordings or published photographs of the proceedings.

South Dakota's policies on electronic devices in courtrooms vary from court to court. For example, in the Second Judicial Circuit, individuals may possess cell phones in courtrooms, but the phones must be turned off or silent. In addition, the Second Judicial Circuit explicitly prohibits the use of the recording or camera function on cell phones. The Third Judicial Circuit requires that cell phones, pagers and beepers are off before individuals enter the courtroom; those devices are not allowed to be activated while inside the courtroom. The Fourth Judicial Circuit distinguishes between traditional cell phones and cell phones with cameras. Traditional cell phones are allowed in the courthouse and must be turned off or silent. Cell phones with cameras are not allowed in the courthouse.

Tennessee

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? No

Media Guide Available? Yes

Extended coverage is permitted in all courts. Requests for coverage must be made in writing to the presiding judge not less than two business days before the proceeding. Coverage of a witness, party or victim who is a minor is prohibited except when a minor is being tried for a criminal offense as an adult. Coverage of the jury selection and the jurors during the proceeding is also prohibited.

In juvenile court proceedings, the court will notify parties and their counsel that a request for coverage has been made and prior to the beginning of the proceedings, the court will advise the accused, the parties and the witnesses of their right to object. Objections by a witness in a juvenile case will limit coverage of that witness. Objections to coverage by the accused in a juvenile criminal case or any party in a juvenile civil action will prohibit coverage of the entire proceeding.

Only two television cameras and two still photographers, using not more than two cameras each, are allowed in the courtroom at one time. The media are responsible for any pooling arrangements.

Appellate review of a presiding judge's decision to terminate, suspend, limit, or exclude media coverage shall be in accordance with Rule 10 of the Tennessee Rules of Appellate Procedure.

Texas

Allows Cameras? No

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? Yes

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? Yes

Rule 18c, Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, and Rule 14, Texas Rules of Appellate Procedure, provide for the recording and broadcasting of civil court proceedings.

Rule 18c allows television, radio and photographic coverage with the consent of the trial judge, the parties and each witness to be covered. Coverage also may not "unduly distract participants or impair the dignity of the proceedings."

Rule 14 technically permits coverage of civil and criminal appellate proceedings. Requests for coverage at the appellate level must be filed five days prior to the proceeding, and coverage may be subject to other limitations imposed by the presiding judge(s). Those seeking coverage at the trial level should check with the local court, as the Supreme Court has approved local rules submitted by counties and cities in the state to allow coverage of trial proceedings and will continue to do so.

The Supreme Court of Texas provides live video and archived audio and video webcasts of oral arguments.

Utah

Allows Cameras? Yes
Does Not Allow Cameras? No
Partial Allowance of Cameras? Yes
Audio or Video Webcast? Yes
Media Guide Available? Yes

Rule 4-401 of Utah Rules of Judicial Administration governs electronic coverage of courtrooms. The new rule took effect on April 1, 2013, with the approval of the Utah Judicial Council.

Under Rule 4-401, Utah allows electronic media coverage—including filming, video recording, and audio recording—at the appellate and trial court levels.

The rule does not distinguish between trial and appellate level courts, and creates a presumption that electronic media coverage is permitted in all courts. A judge may limit or prohibit electronic media coverage, but the judge must find a compelling reason to restrict coverage. News reporters—defined in part as “any person who gathers, records, photographs, reports, or publishes information for the primary purpose of disseminating news and information to the public”—must file a written request for permission to electronically cover a proceeding 24 hours in advance of the proceeding.

The rule also addresses the possession and use of portable electronic devices, like laptops, cell phones, and PDAs. People will be permitted to use portable electronic devices in courtrooms if the person does so quietly. If an individual would like to use a portable electronic device, like a cell phone, to record or transmit information, the person must do so in full compliance with the rule. Even though the judge has the authority to further restrict the use of portable electronic devices, the proposed rule discourages judges from restricting use unless it is necessary to ensure the administration of justice or the integrity of the proceedings.

Vermont

Allows Cameras? Yes
Does Not Allow Cameras? No
Partial Allowance of Cameras? No
Audio or Video Webcast? Yes
Media Guide Available? No

Extended media coverage of Supreme Court proceedings is permitted without the consent of the full court, but the Chief Justice has discretion to prohibit coverage. Audio recording of conferences between members of the Court, between co-counsel or between counsel and client is prohibited. Only two television cameras, each operated by one cameraperson, and one still photographer, using not more than two cameras, are permitted in the Supreme Court at any one time.

At the trial level, coverage is permitted in the courtroom and in immediately adjacent areas that are generally open to the public. Consent of parties and witnesses is not required, but the trial judge has discretion to prohibit, terminate, limit or postpone coverage on the judge’s own motion or on a motion of a party or request of a witness.

Coverage of jurors is prohibited, except in the background when courtroom coverage would be otherwise impossible. While the rules do not ban coverage of specific types of cases, the reporter’s note accompanying the rule suggests that coverage may be inappropriate for sex offense, domestic relations, trade secret cases or offenses in which the victim is a minor. This issue is left to the discretion of the trial judge to evaluate on a case-by-case basis. No proceeding that is closed to the public, by statute, may be covered. Only one television camera, operated by one cameraperson, and one still

photographer, using not more than two cameras, are permitted in the courtroom at any one time. The media are responsible for any pooling arrangements. There is no right to an interlocutory appeal of a decision to prohibit or limit coverage.

Administrative Directive No. 28 governs the use of electronic devices in the courthouse. Under this directive, individuals may bring with them into the courthouse all cell phones, pagers, computers, and other electronic devices. These devices must be turned off before the individual enters the courtroom. Inside the courtroom, an individual may only take out and use electronic devices with the judge's permission. An individual may use the recording devices on cell phones, like cameras and video recorders, only with the consent of the person being photographed.

Virginia

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? Yes

Extended media coverage of both trial and appellate proceedings is permitted at the sole discretion of the trial judge. Coverage of jurors as well as certain kinds of witnesses (police informants, minors, undercover agents and victims and families of victims of sexual offenses) is prohibited. Media coverage of adoption, juvenile, child custody, divorce, spousal support, sexual offense, trade secret and in camera proceedings and hearings on motions to suppress evidence is prohibited as well. Not more than two television cameras and one still photographer (using no more than two cameras) are allowed in the courtroom at any one time, and the media are responsible for any pooling arrangements.

Policies concerning electronic devices in courtrooms vary from court to court. For example, in the Virginia Supreme Court, electronic devices of any kind are prohibited. In one circuit court—Loudoun Circuit Court—only cell phones with cameras are prohibited. In one district court—Campbell General District Court—individuals may not bring cell phones inside courthouse buildings; Campbell General District Court makes an exception for counsel, law enforcement, social workers, court service representatives, probation officers, and mediators.

Washington

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? No

Media Guide Available? Yes

The Courts of Washington permit extended media coverage of trial and appellate courtroom proceedings. The presiding judge may place conditions on the coverage, and the judge must expressly grant permission and ensure that the media personnel will not distract participants or impair the dignity of the proceedings. If a judge finds that media coverage should be limited, he or she must make, on the record, particularized findings that relate to specific circumstances of the proceeding. Judges may not rely on “generalized views” to limit media coverage.

The Bench-Bar-Press Committee, established in 1963, seeks to “foster better understanding and working relationships between judges, lawyers and journalists who cover legal issues and courtroom stories.” In addition to moderating disputes between the bench and the press, the Committee

promulgates a nonbinding Statement of Principles as well as an annual report of its “Fire Brigade” (also known as its Liaison Committee).

West Virginia

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? Yes

West Virginia’s rules permit coverage of both trial and appellate proceedings but also permit a presiding judge to terminate coverage if he or she “determines that coverage will impede justice or create unfairness for any party.” Requests for media coverage must be made at least one day in advance of the proceeding. The presiding judge may sustain or deny objections made by parties, witnesses and counsel to the coverage of any portion of a proceeding. Audio coverage of attorney-client meetings or any other conferences conducted between and among attorneys, clients, or the presiding judge is prohibited. Coverage that shows the face of any juror or makes the identity of any juror discernible is prohibited without juror approval. Only one television camera and one still photographer are allowed in the courtroom at any one time, and the media are responsible for any pooling arrangements.

The Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia provides a live Web cast of oral arguments.

Wisconsin

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No

Partial Allowance of Cameras? No

Audio or Video Webcast? Yes

Media Guide Available? Yes

Extended coverage is permitted, but the presiding judge retains the authority to determine whether coverage should occur and, upon a finding of cause, to prohibit coverage. The trial judge retains the power, authority and responsibility to control the conduct of proceedings, including the authority over the inclusion or exclusion of the media and the public at particular proceedings or during the testimony of particular witnesses under the experimental and permanent guidelines. A presumption of validity attends objections to coverage of participants in cases involving the victims of crimes (including sex crimes), police informants, undercover agents, juveniles, relocated witnesses, divorce, trade secrets, and motions to suppress evidence. An individual juror may be photographed only after his or her consent has been obtained. Photographs of the jury are permitted in courtrooms where the jury is part of the unavoidable background, but close-ups, which enable jurors to be clearly identified, are prohibited. Audio coverage of conferences between an attorney and a client, co-counsel, or attorneys and the trial judge is also prohibited. Three television cameras and three still photographers, using not more than 2 cameras each, are allowed in the courtroom to cover a proceeding. Disputes regarding a court’s application of Chapter 61 are treated as administrative matters, which may not be appealed.

The Wisconsin Supreme Court provides audio recordings or oral arguments on its Web site, with archives dating back to September 1997.

Wyoming

Allows Cameras? Yes

Does Not Allow Cameras? No
Partial Allowance of Cameras? No
Audio or Video Webcast? No
Media Guide Available? No

Extended media coverage is allowed at both the appellate and trial court levels. A request for media coverage must be submitted 24 hours or more prior to the proceedings. The media may not make any close-up photography or visual recording of the members of the jury, nor may it make an audio recording of conferences between attorney and client or between counsel and the presiding judge. Additionally, equipment may not be moved during a proceeding. The trial judge has broad discretion in deciding whether there is cause for prohibition of coverage. Requests to limit media coverage enjoy a presumption of validity in cases involving the victims of crimes, confidential informants, and undercover agents, as well as in evidentiary suppression hearings.